



Community Listening Session

Memorial Field Master Plan

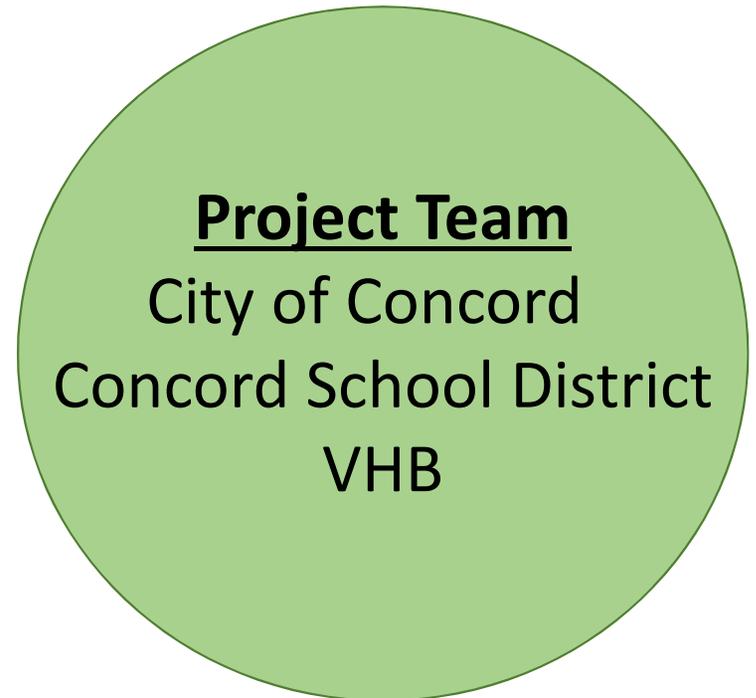
September 19, 2023



Memorial Field Master Plan

City and School District Collaboration

- In June 2023, the City of Concord and Concord School District leadership agreed to explore opportunities to work together on needed improvements at the Memorial Field Complex
- Both sides agreed the first step in the planning phase would be to bring in a consultant to help evaluate the site, develop a Master Plan, and a plan for future joint investments
- The cost of this joint project is being equally shared



Memorial Field Master Plan

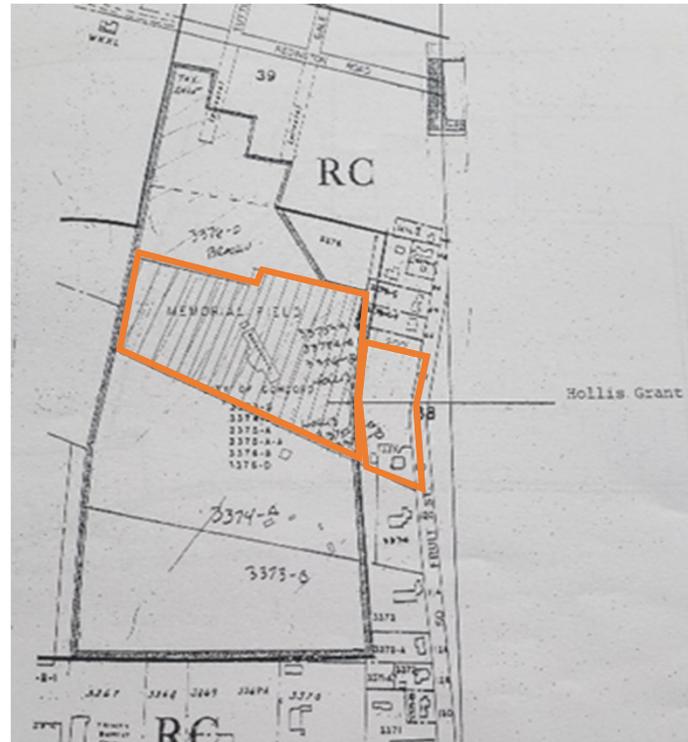
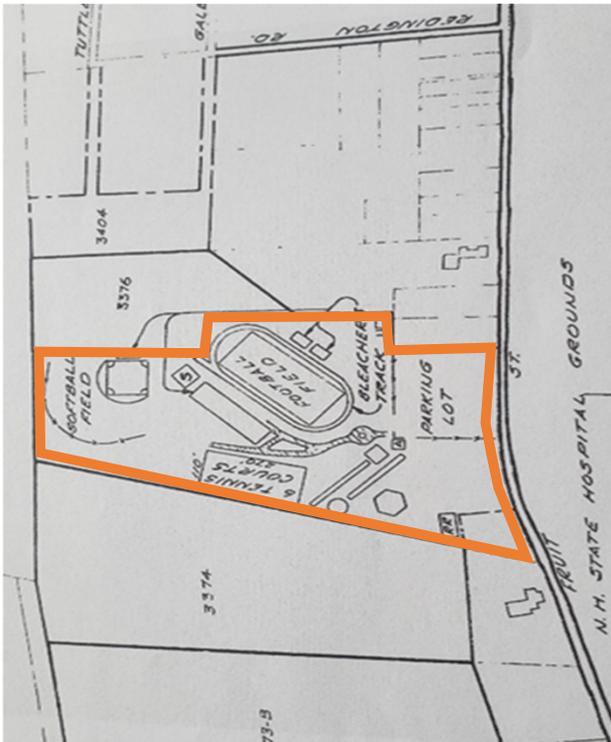
Community Listening Session Agenda

1. History of Memorial Field
2. Use of Memorial Field Complex
3. Recent Investments and Issues
4. Discussion on Wants and Needs
5. Review Examples of Recent Sports Complexes
6. Next Steps

History of Memorial Field

1926 City Park created when two tracts of land were conveyed to the City by Allen Hollis. As part of the donation, a bronze tablet was to be placed dedicating these two tracts as a memorial to the Concord boys who lives were sacrificed in the World War

Original facilities included six clay tennis courts, a cinder track, football field and softball field



History of Memorial Field

1933 City installed the first grandstands on the football field

1936 Baseball field opened and in the same year a marker was installed at the site dedicated to the men and women who served in The First World War

1945 First night football game was held (with portable lights)

1947 Permanent athletic field lights were install for the football field

1971 City Council funded a feasibility study for Memorial Field to look at the expanding needs of outdoor recreation in the community and a Master Plan was created.

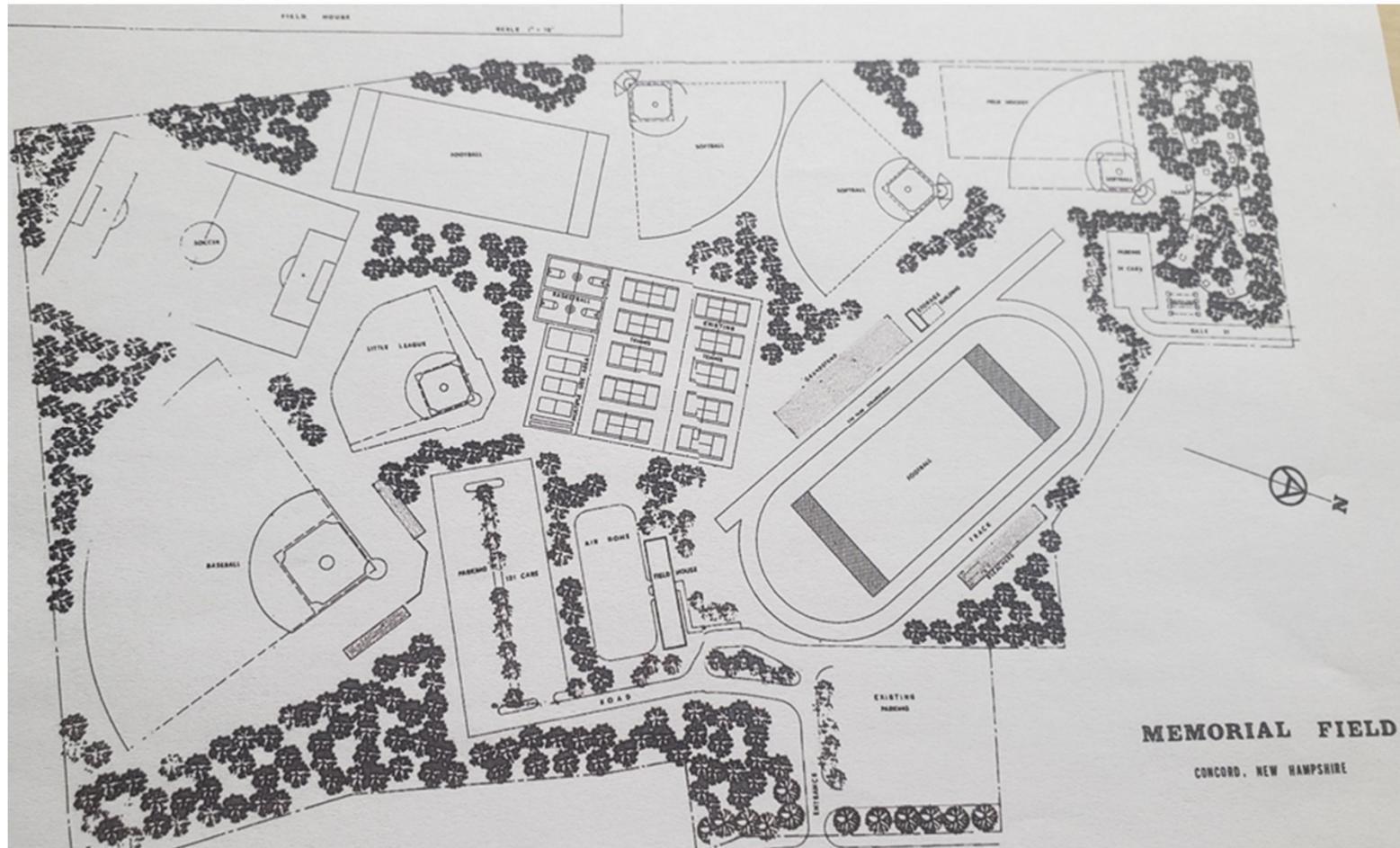
Additional land was acquired around this same time to meet the expanding needs.

The State of NH deeded 9.5 acres for the expressed purpose of expansion of the city's athletic facilities and another 12.3 acres was purchased with the help of Land and Water Conservation Grant and City funds.

History of Memorial Field

Notably, the 1970s Master Plan also included amenities that were never built:

- Field hockey field
- Indoor field house with showers, dressing rooms, weight lifting equipment and coaches' rooms, and
- Expanding parking



Memorial Field Complex Today

- 36-acre park
- 2 football fields
- Track
- Baseball field
- 2 Softball Fields
- Little League Field
- 2 Soccer/Lacrosse Fields
- 10 Tennis Courts
- 2 Basketball Courts
- Room to play



Use of Memorial Field Complex

High School Athletics

- Spring & Fall primary users: Concord High School Athletics
- Fall: Bishop Brady Football

Leagues

- Adult Softball League
- Several Youth and Adult Baseball Leagues
- Concord Capitols Youth Football League
- Concord Crush Youth Lacrosse League
- NH Comets Softball Tournament

Tournaments

- NH Lightning Softball Tournaments
- NHIAA Tournaments (Baseball and Tennis)

Special Events/Community Use

- Special Olympics of NH
- American Cancer Society Making Strides Walk
- Girls on the Run State meets
- July 4 Fireworks Celebration

- Community use of tennis courts and track
- NH Army National Guard
- XC Skiing in winter

(Complete list of users in 2022 are on the Parks & Recreation web site)



Recent Investments

- Over the past 10 years the City has invested almost \$800,000
 - Improved the 10 tennis courts
 - Baseball field press box
 - Funding an Engineering study for the baseball and football field bleachers.
- In the years ahead, the Complex will require significant investment; this Master Plan is needed to identify next steps



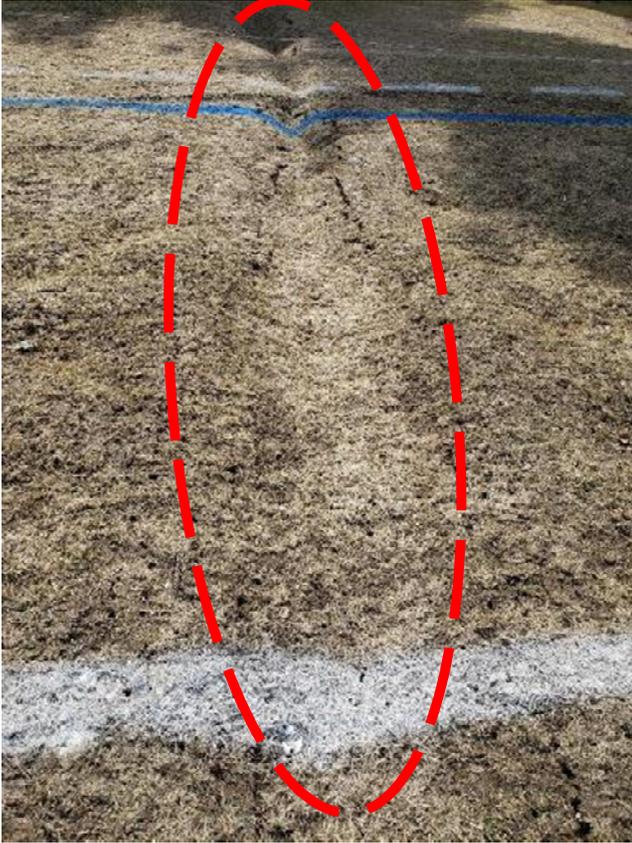
Issues

The obvious: 1970s drainage system has failed



Issues

The general area of the 1970s expansion and current field water issues



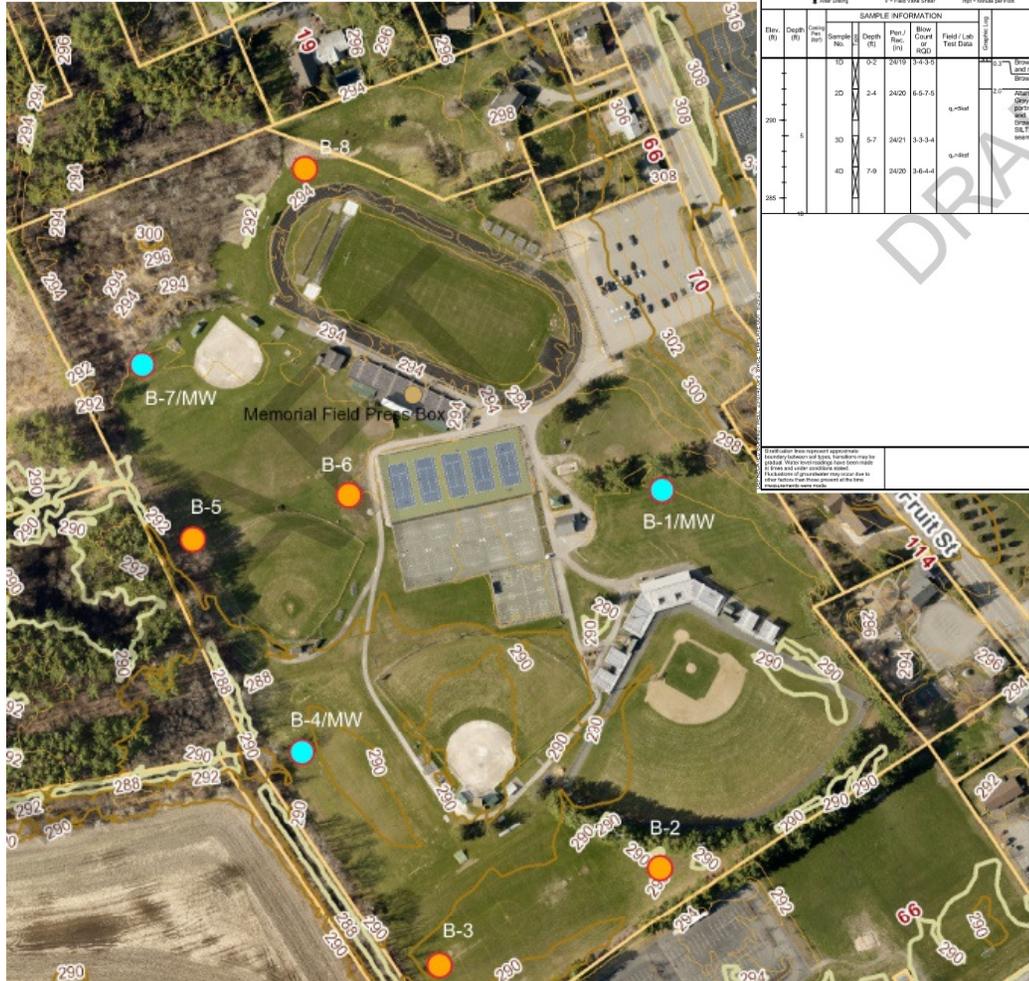
Frost Issues: April 5, 2019

Opportunities

- The complex does not anticipate the sports of today
 - The two football fields cannot support regulation soccer or lacrosse fields
 - No onsite field hockey field
 - The field cannot be used when track is in use for track meets
- Track needs to be replaced
- Bleachers need to be replaced
 - How many spectators should they hold?
- Should Complex have artificial turf field?
 - If so, which sport fields
- Parking challenges
- ADA Challenges

Data Collection Efforts

- Existing Conditions Site Survey
 - Boundary Property Line
 - Topography
 - Utility
- Natural Resource Area Delineation
 - Wetland Flagging
- Subsurface Geotechnical Explorations
 - 8 Borings
 - 3 GW Monitoring Wells



SWC&E		BORING LOG				BORING NO.: B-1/MW																																																	
CLIENT: V&B, Inc.		PROJECT: Proposed Redevelopment of Memorial Field				SHEET: 1 of 1																																																	
LOCATION: 29 South Fruit Street, Concord, New Hampshire		DATE START: 7/29/2023				DATE FINISH: 7/29/2023																																																	
Drilling Information LOCATION: Site Expansion Location Plan ELEVATION (FT): 287.00 TOTAL DEPTH (FT): 111.10 LOGGED BY: John Calmes DRILLING CO.: Sheford Collins DRILLER: Mike BIRLING METHOD: Split Stem Auger RIG TYPE: Track Mounted Ditchbox D-205 AUGER D-205 NO. 1.4-10.00 SAMPLER: Standard Ball/Spoon HAMMER TYPE: Automatic Chainfall HAMMER WEIGHT (lbs): 140.00 CHAINING (ft): 100.00 CORE BARREL: HAMMER EFFICIENCY FACTOR: HAMMER DROP (inches): 30.00 WATER LEVEL DEPTH (ft): 2.10 Soil located saturated @ 7.8 ft. No water observed at 4.7 feet.		GENERAL NOTES: 1) 2" PVC water monitoring well installed with vent pipe and cap. 2) 4" S&W Scope Service 3) 1" Hole Size Service 4) Rock Core Sample 5) Fine Slime 6) 1" Minimum Length 7) Minimum Length 8) Rock Quality Designation 9) Blow per Foot 10) Head Value Other 11) Weight of Blow 12) Weight of Blow 13) Rock Quality Designation 14) Friction Angle (Estimated) 15) Head Value Other																																																					
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Bottom of Exploration at 110.0 feet																																																							

BORING NO.: B-1/MW

Examples

Assabet Valley Regional High School



Examples



Richie Eaton Field, Newburyport

Examples



Brooks School, North Andover

Examples



Pomfret School, CT

Examples

Assabet Valley Regional High School



Examples



Richie Eaton Field, Newburyport

Examples



Brooks School, North Andover

Examples



Examples



Examples



Discussion

- Community input
- Identify your top priorities

Next Steps

- Compile Community Comments
- Prioritize and Rank Comments & Suggestions
- Prepare Conceptual Layouts
- Schedule Community Meeting #2

Project Information: <http://concordnh.gov/1943/Memorial-Field>







